

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 13066

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, MX
SUBJECT: PRI NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

1. SUMMARY: THE PRI WILL HOLD ITS NINTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AUGUST 10-12. PRELIMINARY PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THAT CARLOS SANORES PEREZ WILL BE ELECTED PRESIDENT; GUSTAVO CARVAJAL MORENO, SECRETARY GENERAL; AND SENATOR RODOLFO LANDEROS GALLEGOS, SECRETARY OF INFORMATION. THE LATTER TWO ARE SIGNIFICANT BECAUSE OF THEIR CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO AND INDIRECTLY HIS POLITICAL REFORM PROGRAM. END SUMMARY.

2. THE MEXICO CITY DAILY, EL UNIVERSAL, ON AUGUST 8 RAN A FRONT-PAGE STORY PREDICTING THAT UNDER SECRETARY OF LABOR GUSTAVO CARVAJAL MORENO WILL BE ELECTED SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE PRI. WHILE CARVAJAL, WHO WORKED AS PRIVATE SECRETARY TO PRESIDENT-ELECT LOPEZ PORTILLO IN HIS CAMPAIGN, HAD BEEN SUGGESTED AS THE LEADING CANDIDATE IN POLITICAL EDITORIALS, EL UNIVERSAL WAS THE FIRST DAILY TO CAST THE PREDICTION AS A NEWS STORY. THE SAME ARTICLE REPORTS THAT SENATOR LANDEROS, FROM THE STATE OF AGUASCALIENTES, WILL BE ELECTED AS SECRETARY OF INFORMATION.
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LANDEROS HAD EARLIER WORKED AS A PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER IN THE SECRETARIAT OF THE TREASURY AND SERVED IN A SIMILAR CAPACITY FOR JLP DURING HIS CAMPAIGN. THE ARTICLE ALSO REPORTS THAT MIGUEL OSORIO MARBAN WILL MOVE FROM HIS PRESENT JOB AS POLITICAL SECRETARY TO NEWLY CREATED POSITION OF IDEOLOGICAL SECRETARY.
COMMENT: THE ELECTION OF CARVAJAL MORENO AND LANDEROS

GALLEGOS TO KEY JOBS IN THE PRI WILL WORK TO INSURE THAT THE PRI ACTUALLY IMPLEMENTS THE POLITICAL REFORM PROGRAM INITIATED BY PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO. PRI PRESIDENT SANSORES PEREZ, WHO IS VIEWED AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CONSERVATIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PRI, HAS PUBLICLY SUPPORTED POLITICAL REFORM BUT IT IS DOUBTFUL IF HE WILL GO BEYOND WHAT IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY IN ITS IMPLEMENTATION. END COMMENT.

3. SEVERAL MEXICAN DAILIES OF AUGUST 9 REPORT THE AUGUST 8 RESIGNATION OF JUAN SABINES GUTIERREZ AS SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE PRI AND HIS APPOINTMENT AS A PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR. SABINES, WHO BECAME SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE PRI IN DECEMBER 1976, HAD SERVED AS A FEDERAL DEPUTY FROM THE STATE OF CHIAPAS (1958-61). HIS APPOINTMENT AS PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR PUTS HIM IN A HOLDING PATTERN UNTIL HE GETS A NEW JOB OR RETIRES FROM PUBLIC LIFE. VMCANINCH

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